

Press Release: November 2011

Translunar Paradise - comes to Aberystwyth

- an extraordinary 'play without words' from award-winning Theatre Ad Infinitum

"an extraordinary performance" **The Observer**

"Extraordinarily poignant...beautifully performed.... packs a real emotional punch. In the end, this is a show about loss and bereavement that is as much about mourning your own lost self as about the grief at the death of a long-term partner." **The Guardian**

"an admirable, infinitely gentle and wordless story of loss and remembrance" **The Times**

"I really cannot recommend this highly enough, it is not just one of the best shows I have seen at this year's fringe, but any fringe." **The Stage**

"a thing of perfection." **British Theatre Guide**

Aberystwyth Arts Centre, 31st January 2012, 7.30pm

Multi award-winning **Theatre Ad Infinitum** are bringing their hit play, 'Translunar Paradise' to Aberystwyth Arts Centre on 31st January 2012. After a ground-breaking season, which saw the company premiere 'Translunar Paradise' to substantial critical acclaim at the Edinburgh Fringe 2011, they have gone on to win no less than 5 theatre awards for this production, including the Holden Street Theatres Award 2011, Audience Award at MESS Festival, Sarajevo, and the 1st Prize BE Festival Development Award in 2010.

'Translunar Paradise' takes you on a journey of life, death, and enduring love. After his wife passes away, William escapes to a paradise of fantasy and past memories, a place far from the reality of his grief. Returning from beyond the grave, Rose revisits her widowed companion to perform one last act of love: to help him let go...

Exquisitely created, **Translunar Paradise** is told entirely without words and in their place are movement, haunting music and masks. This is a powerful and emotional tale of a man who is confronted by the solitude of bereavement.

Director and performer George Mann says, "This is about the gap between young and old. Age, like a mask, can obscure the fact a person was once young. We're working without words to convey this story through the body and music on a poetic level. The audience will be immersed in feeling, sensations and movements. We hope they go home feeling they've experienced something very special."

And he adds, "The last 12 months have been a hugely exciting time for us. We had an incredible Edinburgh Fringe last summer, followed by a great autumn tour. Now we're very much looking forward to being on the road again and visiting the Aberystwyth Arts Centre on 31st January."

Tickets for *Translunar Paradise* can be bought online at www.aber.ac.uk/artscentre or by phoning the Arts Centre's box office on 01970 623232. *Translunar Paradise* is supported by the Ustinov, Bath, BE Festival, MAC, The Lowry and Redbridge Arts Centre. The production will tour nationwide during January and February 2012.

ENDS

For more information, images, or for review tickets, please contact:

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Note to Editors

Jan/Feb 2012 Tour for 'Translunar Paradise'

The Barbican Pit, London, as part of the 2012 London International Mime Festival 17-21 Jan

Tolmen Centre, Cornwall, 28 Jan

Aberystwyth Arts Centre, Aberystwyth, Wales, 31st Jan

Norden Farm, Maidenhead 1st Feb

South Hill Park, Bracknell, 3rd Feb

The Richard Whiteley Theatre, Settle, North Yorkshire 4th Feb

Bristol Old Vic 6-11th Feb

Lincoln Drill Hall, Lincoln 14th Feb

The Barbican Theatre, Plymouth 17th Feb

The Assembly Rooms, Presteigne 18th Feb

Theatre Ad Infinitum – company and awards

Theatre Ad Infinitum is a Lecoq-trained international ensemble based in London that develops new and original theatre for a multi-cultural audience. The company is led by two Artistic Directors, Nir Paldi (Israel) and George Mann (UK). Additionally, Theatre Ad Infinitum has recently created a base in Canada led by Artistic Director Amy Nostbakken who is working with the UK team.

The company has won critical acclaim and stunning reviews for its recent productions. In 2008 it was named the Observer's Best of Fringe for its performance at Edinburgh and was nominated for a Total Theatre Award in 2010. In 2009 the company won The Stage Award for Best Solo Performer and in 2010 was shortlisted for a Total Theatre Award and given the 1st Prize BE Festival Development Award for *Translunar Paradise*. In a real step-change, in 2011 Theatre Ad Infinitum has won 6 awards: The Holden Street Theatres Award, the Fringe Review 'Outstanding Theatre Award' at the Edinburgh Fringe, The Observer's Alternative Iron Man Award, the Audience Award and the Brave New World Award at the MESS International Theatre Festival in Sarajevo and the Best Theatre Direction Award at ACT Festival, Bilbao, Spain, as well as being Mervin Stutter's 'Pick of the Fringe' for a 4th consecutive year.

George Mann (Director and actor) is a practitioner, actor, writer and director. George trained for two years at the École Internationale de Théâtre Jacques Lecoq in Paris 2006 and graduated from Royal Holloway University of London with a degree in Theatre Studies in 2004. He formed Theatre Ad Infinitum in 2006, creating *Behind the Mirror* for a London run at Blue Elephant Theatre in 2007 and at the Pleasance in Edinburgh's Festival Fringe 2008, which went on to receive critical acclaim, and Arts Council funding for a spring 2009 tour in the UK. *Odyssey*, the company's second piece was a sell-out hit, George received The Stage Best Solo Performer Award for his one-man performance of Homer's classic tale directed by Nir Paldi. His latest production, an Arts Council England supported production, *Translunar Paradise* was a sell out award-winning success in the Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2011 winning three awards, critical acclaim across the board, and secured an international 2012 tour, starting at The Pit, Barbican London, of this new devised piece that he is directing and performing in.

Deborah Pugh (UK – Performer) is a performer and movement practitioner graduated from Ecole Internationale de Theatre Jacques Lecoq, Paris. She joined Theatre Ad infinitum In 2007 and with them has devised and performed in the critically acclaimed *Behind the Mirror* and *War Project*. Other recent theatre credits include work with Two Tomorrows Theatre Co. with support from The Young Vic, and Ragroof Theatre Co. in their production of *Gloves On*, a site specific exploration of Boxing and its place in the British psyche



which required her to spend six months retraining as a boxer. In the New Year Deborah will be devising new work with Theatre Sans Frontieres.

Kim Heron (UK – Performer/Musician) is trained in circus skills and worked as a cabaret performer before completing her two-year actor training at London International School of Performing Arts (LISPA) in 2008. Since graduating from LISPA Kim has toured internationally as an actor-musician with London-based Temple Theatre Company in their critically acclaimed 'Out of Chaos'. She has recently been working with The Invisible Circus and Pif Paf Street Theatre Company. Kim also works with puppetry and set design. She is a professional accordionist and vocalist.